

come groups has not so far been possible to be met by D.D.A. alone. Increase in the cost of construction, which is not a policy as such of D.D.A. is one of the factors inhibiting larger construction of houses due to limited resources. Residential plots, however are allotted to persons belonging to middle and low income groups only by draw of lots and at pre-determined rates which are lower than the auctioned rates, as per Government policy.

(c) The Delhi Rent Control Act is under review.

(d) The pricing policy of D.D.A. houses and the auctioning policy in general are under review.

कटरा गढ़

5554. श्री श्याम सुन्दर दास : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के मुजफ्फरपुर जिले में एक महत्वपूर्ण ऐतिहासिक और संस्कृतिक स्थान कटरागढ़ (कटरा किला) जहां थाने और प्रखंड कार्यालय स्थित है तथा उक्त गढ़ की चारदीवारी के अवशेष अब भी मौजूद हैं ;

(ख) कटरागढ़ का पुराना नाम चौमडा है और वह प्राचीन मिथिला साम्राज्य की राजधानियों में से एक था और वहां के श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण को गुप्तकालीन ताम्रपत्र दिया गया था जिसे उन्होंने तत्कालीन कमिश्नर श्रीधर वासुदेव साहनी आई० सी० एस० को सौंप दिया था—तथा श्री सोहनी ने वह ताम्रपत्र इस अनुरोध के साथ सरकार के सम्बन्ध विभाग को भेज दिया था कि इस स्थान की खुदाई करायी जाए और उसका संरक्षण कराया जाये ; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) और (ख) का उत्तर स्वीकारात्मक हो, तो सरकार का इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री (डा० प्रताप चन्द्र चन्द्र): (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) कटरा गढ़ का स्थानीय नाम चौमंड गढ़ है। मिथिला की प्राचीन राजधानी के रूप में इस स्थान का दावा किसी भी तरह अभी तक सिद्ध नहीं हुआ है। श्री जय प्रकाश द्वारा श्री एस० वी० सोहनी को दिया गया गुप्त काल का उत्तरकालीन ताम्रपत्र आजकल पुरातत्व और संग्रहालय निदेशालय द्वारा संचालित पटना संग्रहालय में संरक्षित है। राज्य का पुरातत्व निदेशालय, 1975 से कटरा गढ़ का उत्खनन कर रहा है।

(ग) बिहार सरकार के पुरातत्व विभाग ने इस स्थल को अपने संरक्षण में लेने तथा आगामा कार्यकाल में और आगे उत्खनन करने का प्रस्ताव किया है।

Chambal Bridge on the Agra-Bombay Highway

5555. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that defective and sub-standard work at the Chambal Bridge on the Agra-Bombay Highway was reported as early as 1959 by a Junior Engineer, Shri Gurdayal Upadhyaya, supervising the work to his superior;

(b) whether the same piers 14 to 19 collapsed in 1973 about which the report was made;

(c) whether Shri Gurdayal was subjected to various types of harassments and placed under suspension in July, 1960 and has remained so far the last 17 years, to cover up the malpractices in the department and large scale pilferage of cement and other material; and

(d) whether in view of the seriousness of the allegations and the

enormous loss involved Government propose to institute an impartial enquiry or hand over the case to the CBI before whom Shri Upadhyaya is able to substantiate his allegations?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) It is a fact that Junior Engineer Shri Gurdayal Upadhyaya had sent a report to his superior officer in 1959 alleging sub-standard work by the contractor. This report had been thoroughly examined not only by the Central Public Works Department officers but also by the Chief Technical Examiner of the Ministry. However the allegations were not substantiated and the work was not found to be of sub-standard quality.

(b) It is true that the piers which collapsed were amongst the various piers which were being constructed by the contractor who had been reported against by Shri Upadhyaya. A High Level Technical Committee consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Transport, C.P.W.D., D.G., Border Roads, Railways, Rajasthan P.W.D. and Geological Survey of India was constituted by the Ministry of Transport to examine the collapse. The defective workmanship or the substandard work was not one of the causes identified by the Committee for the collapse.

(c) Shri Upadhyaya had been charge-sheeted and suspended in 1960, on several charges but not with a view to harassing him. Shri Upadhyaya moved the local court at Agra for a declaration that the suspension was illegal and also claimed damages. Thereafter, he went on moving the High Court on several occasions and the lower court has not yet been able to dispose of the original suit. Disciplinary proceedings have been kept suspended following some observations of the High Court and as the original case has not yet been disposed of, the suspension continues.

(d) As the allegations of Shri Upadhyaya had not been found substantiated by the departmental

superiors as well as by the Chief Technical Examiner of the Ministry and as the High Level Technical Committee also did not find any fault with the workmanship but attributed the collapse to other reasons, Government does not propose to institute any other enquiry, nor does it propose to hand over the case to the C.B.I.

Allotment of Land in Narela Industrial Area

5556. SHRI GYANESWAR PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 acres of land was allotted to some persons in Narela Industrial-Area;

(b) whether no applications from public were invited for allotment of these plots and the same were allotted to some favourite persons without any criteria;

(c) what were the sizes of the plots and the names of the allottees alongwith their relationship with Ministers, political leaders and officials, if any;

(d) whether there was a difference of Rs. five lakh per acre in the market rate and allotment rate of these plots thereby putting the exchequer to the loss of Rs. 2 crores; and

(e) what action Government propose to remedy the situation and to take action against persons found guilty in the whole deal?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Delhi State Industrial Corporation Ltd., invited applications by issuing open advertisement in leading Newspapers of Delhi for the allotment of land in Narela in response to which 450 applications have been received by the Corporation. The work of